Application No. 10/705,778 Amendment dated October 13, 2006 Reply to Final Office Action of July 13, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Docket No.: 20050/0200475-US0

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings of claims presented in the application.

1. (previously presented): An interlabial pad for absorbing body fluid having an elongated shape, comprising:

a surface sheet disposed on a face of the interlabial pad so as to face a wearer's body;

a back sheet disposed on an opposite face of the interlabial pad so as to face a wearer's garment;

an absorbent body enveloped between the surface sheet and the back sheet:

a mini-sheet extending from one lateral side to another lateral side of the interlabial pad and also having a length in a longitudinal direction of the back sheet;

a cavity for finger insertion formed in between the back sheet and the mini-sheet; and

a cavity opening for guiding a fingertip inserted therein to the remainder of the cavity, having a fingerbreadth of a wearer,

wherein the mini-sheet is provided so that it covers a finger application point that is in contact with a wearer's vagina; and

wherein the mini-sheet is bonded at a peripheral edge to one end of the back sheet of the interlabial pad so as to form a pocket shaped finger insertion space.

- 2. (canceled).
- 3. (canceled).

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4. (currently amended): The interlabial pad of claim [[1]] 5, wherein at least a part of the mini-sheet is stretchable or elastically extensible at least in respect to a lateral direction of the interlabial pad.

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- 5. (currently amended): An interlabial pad for absorbing body fluid having an elongated shape, comprising:
 - a surface sheet disposed on a face of the interlabial pad so as to face a wearer's body;
 - a back sheet disposed on an opposite face of the interlabial pad so as to face a wearer's garment;
 - an absorbent body enveloped between the surface sheet and the back sheet;
 - a mini-sheet extending from one lateral side to another lateral side of the interlabial pad and also having a length in a longitudinal direction of the back sheet;
 - a cavity for finger insertion formed in between the back sheet and the mini-sheet; and
 - a cavity opening for guiding a fingertip inserted therein to the remainder of the cavity, having a fingerbreadth of a wearer,
 - wherein the mini-sheet is provided so that it covers a finger application point that is in contact with a wearer's vagina; and
 - wherein the mini-sheet is formed of a pair of flap portions extending from lateral sides of the interlabial pad, across the back sheet, the mini-sheet having an affixing portion at an end of each flap portion in order to affix the [[end]] ends of [[each]] the pair of flap portion to each other.
- 6. (previously presented): The interlabial pad of claim 1,
 - wherein the surface sheet and the back sheet are bonded to contain said absorbent body; and

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wherein the mini-sheet and the interlabial pad are bonded at positions offset from and inside of the peripheral edge of the interlabial pad.

- 7. (currently amended): The interlabial pad of claim [[1]] 5, wherein the mini-sheet has a length dimension at least 10 % longer than that of the interlabial pad in the longitudinal direction of the interlabial pad.
- 8. (canceled).

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- (currently amended): The interlabial pad of claim [[1]] 5, wherein a total circumferential length of the cavity opening is between 30 mm to 120 mm.
- 10. (currently amended): The interlabial pad of claim [[1]] 5, wherein the back sheet of the interlabial pad is provided with microscopic protrusions and depressions.
- 11. (currently amended): The interlabial pad of claim [[1]] 5, wherein an adhesive is applied to a the interlabial pad is adhered so that part of the surface sheet [[is]] of the interlabial pad to be in contact with a genital area of the wearer's body.
- 12. (currently amended): The interlabial pad of claim [[1]] 5, comprising an upheaval area on the surface sheet, the upheaval area protruding toward the wearer's body along the longitudinal direction of the surface sheet.
- 13. (currently amended): The interlabial pad of claim [[1]] 5, wherein the back sheet is made of moisture permeable material.
- 14. (currently amended): The interlabial pad of claim [[1]] 5, wherein the pad is composed of formed with at least one of biodegradable material, and/or water-soluble material and/or and water dispersible material.

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15. (currently amended): The interlabial pad of claim [[1]] 5, wherein said interlabial pad is an interlabial pad for incontinence.

- 16. (currently amended): The interlabial pad of claim [[1]] 5, wherein said interlabial pad is an interlabial pad for absorbing vaginal discharge.
- 17. (previously presented): An interlabial pad manufacturing method for manufacturing the interlabial pad of claim 5, comprising:

setting longer a pair of wings ordinarily disposed at both side portions of a sanitary napkin; and

bonding said wings to form said mini-sheet.